

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: December 15, 2020
Time: 10:00am
Place: Via Zoom Meeting
Egremont

Present remotely via zoom meeting were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie.

Others in attendance: Rolfe Tessem, Mary McGurn, Adam Chait(FiberConnect), Jeff Lazarus, and for a short time Cara Becker

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jeff Lazarus and Rolfe Tessem, Technology Committee co-chairs, presented the final Construction and Operations Agreement for the Board's acceptance. This approval does not mean that work on the build out will begin. MBI asked the Board to specifically reference and approve the security language in the agreement. Vice-Chair Lucinda Vermeulen moved that the town accept the provisions of the proposed broadband fiber network construction and operations agreement by and between the town of Egremont and Fiber Connect LLC draft dated December 10, 2020 and the town specifically recommends that MassBroadband Institute accept the Security Interest provision as written in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 is said agreement. The Board voted unanimously in a roll call vote to approve the motion.

A huge Thank you was extended to Jeff and Rolfe for their months of work on this agreement. The next step is for MBI to sign the funding agreement. MBI is holding off until Monterey signs their construction and operations agreement. Adam Chait will not sign the Egremont agreement until he can also sign the Monterey agreement. This is of some concern as the Monterey Board is not ready to sign yet. Adam Chait also complimented Jeff and Rolfe and noted that he is already moving forward with the necessary steps to get the paperwork completed. Jeff thanked everyone and noted that it was a team effort. He clarified that we need to inform MBI of this action and we should offer as much help as possible to Monterey. There will be ceremonial signing when Monterey has completed its agreement. A press release will be drafted. Rolfe reported that he and Jeff can now work with Holyoke Gas & Electric to finalize the back up operations agreement.

The issue with the Police Administrative Assistant has been resolved.

The Regional School District Planning Board has formed a Funding Source Subcommittee. The Chair of the Planning Board would like to address the Egremont Selectboard in the near future. The Board agreed to listen and to help to clarify the budget process.

Office Administrator Brazie has compiled a list of capital items that were noted as being needed at the All-Boards meeting along with the funding options that will be available.

COVID-19:

Issues with social distancing at a local business were reported. An employee at another local business has tested positive. That business took immediate action to protect their other employees and

the public.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board agreed to change its meeting date to December 29 from December 22.

Mary McGurn announced that US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has finally congratulated President Elect Biden and Vice-President Elect Harris.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.21/dec15

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.